

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ORDER NO. 2214

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served April 13, 1981

Investigation of INTERSTATE)
TAXICAB RATES for Service within)
the Metropolitan District,)
Specifically AIR TRANSIT, INC.)

Case No. MP-81-01

By Order No. 2213, served this same date, we issued our decision in the above-captioned case as it applies to interstate rates for District of Columbia taxicabs and extra-passenger charges for all interstate taxicab service within the Metropolitan District.

As pertinent here, the rates prescribed in that order are:

\$1.50 First mile or fraction
45¢ Each additional half-mile or fraction
75¢ Each additional passenger in a pre-formed party (provided, however, that one child five (5) years of age or younger shall be transported without charge for each individual of at least sixteen (16) years of age in a pre-formed party.)

The Commission generally prescribes rates for Air Transit, Inc., ^{1/} which are the same as rates prescribed for interstate service provided by District of Columbia taxicabs. However, unlike District of Columbia taxicabs which calculate interstate fares by using their odometers, Air Transit employs taximeters. So from time to time it is necessary to grant minor rate modifications to Air Transit to make its

1/ Air Transit operates taxicab service from Dulles International Airport (Dulles) to points located within the Metropolitan District. As pertinent here, the Commission can prescribe taxicab rates from a point in one Compact signatory to a point in another Compact signatory when both points are within the Metropolitan District. See Compact, Title II, Article XII, Section 8. Therefore, the rates here involved are between Dulles, which is located in Virginia, on the one hand, and on the other, points in the District of Columbia, Montgomery County, Md., and Prince George's County, Md.

rate structure mechanically compatible with its taximeters and operating circumstances.

By petition filed February 27, 1981, Air Transit supports the rates proposed in our Order No. 2192, served January 30, 1981, 2/ and, if adopted, asks the Commission to grant for use by Air Transit slightly different rates which would be compatible with its taximeters.

Air Transit requests permission to set its meters at the following rates:

\$1.00 First one-third mile or fraction
20¢ Each additional two-ninths mile or fraction

Air Transit asserts that the manufacturers of the two types of taximeters it uses do not make parts which would permit increments of 45¢ per half mile. Parts are available for increments of 10¢ per one-ninth mile, but Air Transit believes (correctly, in our judgment) that the audible meter "clicks" produced by such small increments would be rapid and disconcerting to its passengers at the speed and over the distance of the Dulles Access Road. Accordingly, we will grant Air Transit the requested increment of 20¢ per two-ninths mile.

We will, however, require that Air Transit's "first drop" be set at 90¢ for the first one-third mile, rather than \$1. This will result in a first-mile charge of \$1.50, rather than \$1.60, and will be compatible with the rate prescribed by Order No. 2213.

The basic extra-passenger charge of 75¢, and the new language governing the transportation of small children as adopted today by Order No. 2213, shall apply to Air Transit as will the miscellaneous charges adopted in the Appendix to that order. However, a further exception will be granted to Air Transit concerning time charges.

Time charges, in Order No. 2213, are specifically arranged for non-metered District of Columbia taxicabs. Nevertheless, these time charges essentially work out to \$9 per hour, either for waiting time or for hiring a taxicab by the hour. Taximeters, such as those employed by Air Transit and all local Maryland and Virginia jurisdictions, have an integral clock mechanism for calculating all time-related charges, and we shall authorize Air Transit to establish this rate at the equivalent of \$9 per hour.

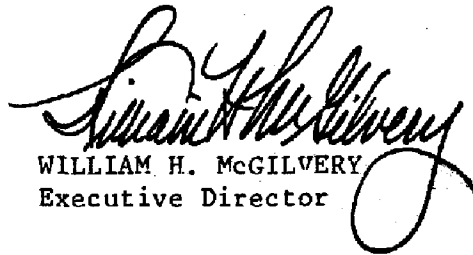
2/ Those same rates were adopted in Order No. 2213.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That the rates for interstate taxicab transportation between points within the Metropolitan District for taxicabs of Air Transit, Inc., are hereby prescribed as set forth in the Appendix to this order.

2. That the rates prescribed herein shall be implemented on the taximeters of Air Transit, Inc., within 30 days of the date of service of this order.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION, COMMISSIONERS CLEMENT, SCHIFTER AND SHANNON:



WILLIAM H. MCGILVERY
Executive Director

INTERSTATE TAXICAB RATES
FOR TAXICAB SERVICE PROVIDED BY
AIR TRANSIT, INC., WITHIN THE
WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT

- 90¢ First 1/3 mile or fraction
- 20¢ Each additional 2/9 mile or fraction
- 75¢ Each additional passenger in a pre-formed party
(provided, however, that one child five (5)
years of age or younger shall be transported
without charge for each individual of at least
sixteen (16) years of age in a pre-formed
party.)

Hand baggage, including large bags of groceries or articles of similar size, in excess of one piece per passenger shall be charged for at the rate of 15¢ for each such piece. Briefcases and parcels of comparable size shall not be considered as hand baggage.

Trunks or similar large articles shall be charged for at the rate of \$1.25 each. A trunk is herein described as a piece of baggage having a minimum dimension or cubic content in excess of 32 inches by 18 inches by 9 inches or 3 cubic feet.

The charge for personal service shall be 65¢; taxicab service in response to a telephone call, 65¢ in addition to all other authorized charges; dismissal of a taxicab without using it after response to a telephone call, 65¢ in addition to the charge for responding; waiting time, \$9.00 per hour.

There shall be no additional charge for service during traffic rush hours or snow emergency periods.